Form 504
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

Type of Survey Topographical
Field No. Office No. 2306

LOCALITY
State Louisiana
General locality Lake Pont-
Locality Cheteaim
North Shore

404 1848
CHIEF OF PARTY

P. A. Welker

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DATE

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U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

Henry S. Pritchett, Superintendent.

State: Louisiana

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topographic Sheet No. 2306

Locality:

Lake Pontchartrain
North Shore
Mandeville, Louisiana

1898.

Chief of Party:

Assistant P. A. Werker.
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY,

Lake Ouchita, La.

March 11th, 1898

Dr. Henry S. Pritchett,
Superintendent C. I. S. Survey,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to submit the following Descriptive Report to accompany the topographic sheet of the north shore of Lake Ouchita, No. 2306, which includes the towns of Mandeville and Tickfaw.

The sheet covers all the shore line between Ragged Point, on the east, and a point about a half mile east of the mouth of the Chippewa River, on the west, along the north side of Lake Ouchita, and includes all the territory adjacent to the shore for a distance of two or three miles back from the water.
The country covered by the shrub is low and flat, the soil being sandy, covered usually with a thin vegetable cover.

A cypress, or gum, swamp usually lies the shore and all bayous or streams, varying in width from a few feet to nearly a mile. A narrow strip of sand or hard ground borders immediately on the shore varying in width from five to fifty (50) feet to fifty (50) feet. The bordering swamp disappears at only two places along the shore, one at the town of Woodville and the other at Lucieburg, about two miles west of Woodville.

Each of Great Point's grass marsh separates the cypress swamp from the shore but west of Great Point, this grass marsh disappears and is not seen again until the extreme western edge of the shrub is reached. Here it is merely a large and surrounded by the cypress swamp, and is just east of the Chipmunk River.

Back of the swamp the country is fairly hard and dry excepting during rainy weather when it is wet and soft.
country being so flat the water cannot run off quickly. This hard land is covered (excepting for occasional changes) with pine and live oak timber with deciduous trees or brush growing wherever the ground is low and wet.

The roads shown on the chart are usually in fair condition for travel although sometimes muddy and often somewhat sandy. They are usually wagon tracks through the woods excepting near the towns. Only one R.R. is on the chart, viz. East Louisiana R.R., which extends toward the north connecting with the N.O. & N.E. R.R. at Pearl River.

Hancock has telegraphic connection with Covington and other points.

The towns of Hauwville and Steuburg are summer resorts principally. There is one saw mill at Hauwville and no other factories or mills in the territory covered by the chart.

The means of communication are either by water or land. During the summer season regular steamers run
Autumn New Orleans, and Mandeville and
Swinton. There is a train once every
day to and from New Orleans (from
Mandeville) via Pearl River.

The small bayous shown on the
chart are not navigable for anything
excepting very small boats as there is
only about one to two feet of water
at their mouths and they are too
narrow for boats of any size. Big Branch
and Big Bayou Cahtic are fairly deep
for a short distance however, after
once getting in, and there is plenty
water to float larger boats than can
get in.

All the bridges shown are rough
wooden structure and not so very
strong or sound.

The fences are either wooden or wire
and a number are in a dilapidated
condition.

All the buildings are wooden, with two
or three exceptions, and a large number
are old and almost in ruins.

Very little of the country is cleared.
excepting a few patches near the towns. Some of the old clearings have been abandoned and are now covered with a thick growth of small pines or deciduous brush. There are no orchards worth mentioning, on the whole excepting a few small pecan groves and a few isolated fruit trees around the houses.

Yours very respectfully,

Assistant C.S.S.

Chief of Party: Assistant O. P. Welker.